

LISTING OF AND AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing one or more alerts over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

composing one or more alert messages, which are sent to an alert database;

using network links for gathering a plurality of reaction enabling tools for a user to use in a collaborative manner with other users to respond to the respective alert;

using data extracted from one or more databases, including the alert database, to dispatch the alert messages and corresponding reaction enabling tools to one or more of the elients users over a network, the alert messages and corresponding reaction enabling tools that allow contact with facilities useful in responding to the alert.

2. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where the tool gathering is done by any one or more of the following: a manual process, an automatic process, and a combination of a manual and automatic process.

3. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where the content of the alert messages includes any one or more of the following: a sales advertising, a new product announcement, a new service offering, a catastrophic or beneficial price change, a research report, technical information, a product warning, an answer to a question,

schedule information about events or people, educational materials, and a news event.

4. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where what identifies an event that will be all or part of the content of an alert message is any one or more of the following: an automatic trigger, a trigger based on a numeric value, a pricing trigger, a pricing trigger that is provided by the client, a news event, a logical combination of events, and a human decision.

5. (currently amended) A method, as in claim 1, further comprising the step of associating one or more of the response reaction enabling tools to alerts by use of any one or more of the following response reaction enabling tools: a standard set of tools related to a standard set of alerts, defined subsets of these sets of tools which constitute coherent sets of tools, access to a customer database, and one or more interpretations of one or more database.

6. (currently amended) A method, as in claim 1, where the response reaction enabling tools include any one or more of the following: a link to one or more web pages with clearance to appropriate services from these pages, a result of one or more searches, a document with relevant data, an access to search engines, one or more packages of algorithms allowing pricing of financial instrument, a statistical analysis, a portfolio optimization, one or more dictionaries, an automatic machine translation, access to

natural language agents, a chat link to an expert, an audio link to an expert, an audio-video link to an expert, document sharing tools, access to other members of some virtual community, an access to transactions, an access to orders, and an access to a catalog.

7. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where one of the databases is a database of client information.

8. (currently amended) A method, as in claim 7, where the response reaction enabling tools are determined by the alert and a combination of the user information.

9. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 7, where the user information includes any one or more of the following: a user profile, a set of preferences for each user determined directly by the user, a set of preference defined by a price paid for the service, a valuation of the user, a set of one or more priorities for each user, a set of one or more priorities for one or more users depending on a nature of the alerts.

10. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, that further comprises the step of providing to the users means to access otherwise protected service on a temporary basis to respond to the alert.

11. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 10, where the protected service is any one or more of the following: an exclusive service, an access to a web site, and an access to privileged information.

12. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where the client includes any one or more of the following: a website and a person.

13. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, where the response tools include any one or more of the following: connection to a multiple reaction system and connection to a collaboration system.

14. (previously presented) A method, as in claim 1, further comprising establishing a community of interest of users in response to said alert.

15. (new) A method, as in claim 1, wherein said other users are experts in the subject matter of the alert.

16. (new) A method, as in claim 1, wherein said other users include a virtual community having members that can assist in responding to the alert.

17. (new) A method, as in claim 1, further comprising providing a message if the user frequently declines to respond to alerts.

18. (new) A method, as in claim 1, further comprising providing identity and entitlement information to said facilities to enable access to said facilities.

19. (new) A method for providing one or more alerts over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

composing one or more alert messages, which are sent to an alert database;

using network links for gathering a plurality of reaction enabling research and computational tools for a user to use in a collaborative manner to respond to the respective alert;

using data extracted from one or more databases, including the alert database, to dispatch the alert messages and corresponding reaction enabling tools to one or more of the users over a network, the alert messages and corresponding reaction enabling tools that allow contact with facilities useful in responding to the alert.

20. (new) A method, as in claim 19, wherein said research and computational tools are used by said user in collaborative manner with other users.